The Northern Territory Government today welcomed the Federal Government’s response to the NTER Review.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson said the Northern Territory would continue to work closely with the Federal Government to combat child sex abuse, substance abuse and violence in Indigenous communities and close the Gap on Indigenous disadvantage.

“Importantly both Governments recognise the need to do this in partnership with Indigenous communities,” Mr Henderson said.

“We need to continue the measures under the Emergency Response that close the gap and combat child sex abuse, violence and substance abuse, and we need to do it in consultation with and respect for Indigenous communities.”

Mr Henderson said the Territory Government welcomed the Commonwealth’s intention to conform with the Racial Discrimination Act.

“We also welcome the intention to continue welfare quarantining while a new policy develops that conforms with the Racial Discrimination Act,” he said.

“We will continue to implement our $300 million Closing the Gap package to overcome Indigenous disadvantage across a range of areas including health, education, employment and community safety.

“We will do this in close cooperation with the Commonwealth.”

Mr Henderson had recent discussions with Minister Jenny Macklin about the review and NT Indigenous Policy Minister Marion Scrymgour visited Canberra last week to meet with Jenny Macklin and Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard.